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the matter of sexual purity, than those about him, emphasis is laid on the fact that James's last years were a pattern of personal morality and devoutness.

Although we have had to pass some adverse criticism on a side of the work where the general reader might be misled, we ought to be grateful to the author for a book which, if not strikingly interesting, is nevertheless useful for bringing out features of James's character which are not in general adequately recognized. It is worthy of note that Mr. J. R. Tanner in his recently edited *Catalogue of the Naval Manuscripts in the Pepysian Library*, volume I (Navy Records Society, 1903), has furnished additional proof that the period of progress in the administration of naval affairs from 1660 to 1688 was due, to a considerable extent, to the influence of James, thereby conclusively refuting Macaulay's unjust reflection on his capacity in this field of work. His able assistant Pepys was not Secretary of the Admiralty during the Dutch War of 1665-1667, as stated by our author (p. 161), but Clerk of the Acts. Father Gasquet's introduction, devoted mainly to a consideration of James's conversion and the consequences which it involved, argues what few will deny, that, in spite of his continued immorality, his change of faith was due to conviction rather than to policy. The book is well bound and exceptionally well printed; the illustrations are happily chosen, and the analytical table of contents adds to its usefulness for reference.

ARTHUR LYON CROSS.

*Friedrich der Grosse und der Conflict mit seinem Vater.* Von RHEINHOLD BRODE. (Leipzig: C. Hirzel. 1904. Pp. x, 486.)

It is no enviable task to be obliged to review a book like the above. It is written by a professor in a German university of high standing; it has all the appearance of a most thorough and learned work, with copious notes and citations; the numerous printed authorities quoted are of the highest order, and the author claims to have used manuscript material; the work is evidently the result of great industry. Yet so faulty is the arrangement, so slight is the thread of connection running through the whole, so minimal—at least from the historical student's point of view—are the results, so inflated and pretentious is the style, that the most lenient critic could find little to praise. The author is something of a mystic. "You cannot", he says when describing the few events that are known of the early days of Frederick the Great, "master the fullness of individual life with the incorporeal word, with definitions and formulas. But the little that has been said, *had* to be said. It is true these explanations offer little perhaps to the abstract thinker, and nothing at all to the bald weigher of facts. But to the soul-knower (*dem Seelenkundigen*) they mean much."

The title of the work is *Frederick the Great and the Conflict with his Father*; the subtitle, "a Contribution to the inner History of the Monarchy of Frederick William I". Yet not until page 259 do we

reach the page-heading "Germs of the Conflict with the Father"; and after the conflict is over we have to go back to Albert the Bear in a chapter entitled "Sum and Substance of Prussian Civilization". The earlier chapters deal for the most part with events that took place long after the conflict; thus no less than 110 pages are given to the general diplomatic and military history of Europe between 1740 and 1748.

One might understand an endeavor to show that the Frederick of the Austrian Succession war had become what he was in consequence of the bitter experiences of the years 1730 and 1731. But no such attempt is made. During this whole long digression into European history Frederick's name is scarcely mentioned. One is perfectly at sea as to the meaning of it all until, at the end, we are told that the author has heretofore been keeping the Prussian king (who has, according to the strange economy of the book, yet to be born) "behind the scenes, as it were, looking on at the grandiose drama of this seven-year struggle"; and all that has preceded is simply "intended to constitute, in forcible synthesis, the sharply outlined pedestal on which his image rises". "Now, however," exclaims the author, "it is time to bring upon the stage as protagonist the most active and boldest of princes and to look face to face on this monarch and his state." Incredible as it may seem after such an exordium, we are now plunged into a chapter on the "Essence and Value of Absolute Monarchy", and after sixty pages "the most active and boldest of princes" has only just seen the light. "Ein Glück nun dass er da war", is the author's own commentary (p. 224), though possibly intended in a different connection. The passage in which he speaks of what might have been Frederick's first impressions, had he had any, is characteristic of Brode's style. He tells of "high-coifed, silk-robed dames", of "tight-laced, copper-faced officers", of the "corpulent, tempestuous father", of the "majestic, amiable mother", and of the "warm-hearted little sister", and concludes: "such were the personages from one to the other of whom the little prince allowed his astonished, delicious, blue, childish, giant eyes to wander".

Brode says in his preface that his book owes its origin to the famous controversy of Lehmann and Delbrück against Naudé and Koser regarding the causes of the Seven Years' War. He has come to the conclusion that what is now needed is not a further threshing out of the old field but "psychological analysis of the great king". He implies that Dilthey's experiments in the direction of descriptive and psychological analysis have not been carried further because most men lack the requisite "fineness of perception" (*Bewusstseinsverfeinerung*). But he, Brode, now proposes to undertake just such analytic study with regard to Frederick's character and to make clear his motives in connection with the vicissitudes of European statecraft. This again seems to be an unmeaning promise, for no such analytic study is apparent. The narrative goes on for scores of pages as though Frederick never existed, and we are only occasionally brought back to him by some

sentence such as this: "it has been necessary to let our glance sweep the horizon of his youthful life to see how he was affected by environing circumstances and events".

Perhaps the best pages in the book are those devoted to Grumbkow. Here the current idea that the Prussian minister was nothing but a paid spy of Austria is attacked. But the author runs away from every difficulty. That Grumbkow received a yearly pension from Austria is asserted by Koser on the strength of accounts handed in by Secken-dorf to Prince Eugene. Brode simply remarks, "the proof that Grumbkow received a pension has not yet been furnished". Altogether the book is, in itself, as much of a psychological problem as Brode claims to be the case with Frederick's character.

ERNEST F. HENDERSON.

*Frederick the Great and the Rise of Prussia.* By W. F. REDDAWAY, M.A. [Heroes of the Nations.] (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1904. Pp. xi, 368.)

MR. REDDAWAY'S history of Frederick is likely to be of use to students of this period for the reason that he is thoroughly up-to-date with his authorities. He has used the *Political Correspondence* which is in course of publication, and he has also read to advantage Koser's second volume. His accounts of battles are clear and vivid, and the little maps that show the disposition of the troops are a boon to the reader. The style in general is good.

With the arrangement of the book there is cause to quarrel, although the subtitle, "the Rise of Prussia", is somewhat disarming. Yet it surely is disproportionate, in a biography of Frederick, that more than seven-eighths of the volume should be concerned with the period anterior to 1763, although actually that date marks but the central point of the reign. Moreover in a work on a "Hero of the Nation" one has a right to expect a little less general military and diplomatic history, and a little more study of personality. Even Frederick's outward appearance is scarcely done justice to by the casual remarks that his ablutions were few, his uniform usually faded and covered with snuff, his boots "through neglect, of a reddish color", his bearing "stern and caressing by turns", his voice clarion, his eye commanding. We have definite descriptions of him which might better have been quoted, like that of the Marquis de Bouillé, who saw him as an old man. As to any real weighing or study of character such as we find, for instance, in L. Paul-Dubois, *Frédéric le Grand d'après sa Correspondance Politique*, no such attempt is made at all. Yet Frederick's character, with its contradictions and idiosyncrasies, is very interesting indeed. Even his threats and insults are attenuated when we see him so conscious of his own shortcomings as to inquire anxiously about new ambassadors whether they can stand occasional outbursts or not, handing document after document to Podewils with instructions to tone down the violence of their language, and taking great pains to explain